

Department of Justice

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NORTH CAROLINA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO USING A COMPUTER TO ENTICE A MINOR TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY

ATLANTA, GA - RON FOURAKER, 54, of Conover, North Carolina, pleaded guilty today in federal district court to using a computer to attempt to entice a minor to engage in sexual activity.

"The defendant traveled from North Carolina to Georgia to sexually molest a young girl," said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias. "As we are seeing more and more, the defendant used his computer to meet his target and to arrange a meeting to sexually abuse her. Fortunately, law enforcement was vigilant, caught the defendant, and has protected us from any future attempt by this defendant to harm real children."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: Beginning on or about August 19, 2005, FOURAKER communicated on-line with a person whom he believed was a mother with a 9-year old daughter. FOURAKER, using the screen name "ron2u2000," told the mother that he wanted to engage in sexual acts with the daughter. FOURAKER arranged to meet both mother and daughter, and on August 23, 2005, he traveled to Atlanta from North Carolina for the purpose of sexually molesting the girl. Law enforcement agents arrested FOURAKER at a restaurant parking lot shortly after he arrived in the Atlanta area. The mother with whom FOURAKER had been communicating on-line was in fact an undercover FBI Agent working as part of the FBI's Safe Child Task Force. The 9-year old girl was fictitious and never existed.

FOURAKER was indicted in September, 2005 on two counts: using a computer in an attempt to entice a minor to engage in sexual activity, and traveling across state lines to engage in sexual acts with someone younger than 12 years of age. He pleaded guilty to using a computer to attempt to entice a minor to engage in sexual activity. He could receive a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000.

Sentencing is scheduled for May 25, 2006, at 9:30 a.m., before United States District Judge Duffey.

This case is being investigated by Special Agent Mike Yoder of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney J. Elizabeth McBath is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney or Yonette Sam-Buchanan, Chief, Terrorism, Violent Crimes and Firearms Unit, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.